GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:149
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2005
SETTING UP OF NATIONAL WILDLIFE CRIME CONTROL BUREAU
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to set up a national Wildlife Crime Control Bureau to take on organized gangs of poachers;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith its main functions;

(c) whether any deadline has been fixed to set up this bureau;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the time by which this bureau is likely to be set up?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The main functions of the Bureau are as follows −

i. To gather and analyze intelligence related to organized wildlife crime activities and to disseminate the same to State and Regional Enforcement Agencies for swift action to apprehend the criminals.

ii. To develop infrastructure and capacity for scientific and professional investigation into wildlife crimes and assist State Governments to ensure better success of cases related to wildlife crimes.

iii. To act as a multi agency unit with full time officers from various organizations like Police, DRI, CBI, IB, ITBP, BSF, Customs and the Forest and Wildlife Departments.

iv. To implement the resolutions and decisions taken under various International Conventions such as Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Flora and Fauna (CITES), International Whaling Commission (IWC), etc., to which India is a Party.

v. To co-operate with the Interpol Wildlife Crime Working Group, the World Customs Organization, the CITES Tiger Enforcement Task Force and various other Law Enforcement Agencies inside the country.

vi. To develop a National level Policy for containing the trade, enforcement and capacity building of the State Forest Departments to carry out enforcement and investigation in a professional manner.

vii. To establish an intelligence network all over the country for advance information and action by closely working with State Forest Departments, NGOs, etc.

viii. To monitor the trade and advise the Government of India on changes required in policy and legislation from time to time.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) & (e) Does not arise.